

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 03844 110950Z
ACTION SS-25

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O 101400Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8637
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AMCONSUL JERUSALEM NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
/AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE 3145
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 3844

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PINS, PEPR, LE, IS
SUBJ: SEARCH FOR A SOLUTION TO THE CRISIS IN LEBANON

1. AMBASSADOR HAS TRANSMITTED FOLLOWING REPORT FROM THE RESIDENCE.
2. GOL UN AMBASSADOR TUENI CALLED ON AMBASSADOR JULY 10 AND SAID A NUMBER OF GOL OFFICIALS AND LOCAL POLITICIANS WERE WORKING ON A SOLUTION THAT WOULD HAVE SOMETHING FOR EVERYBODY. AT THIS POINT, THIS SOLUTION INCLUDES FOLLOWING ELEMENTS:

A. SYMBOLIC UNITS OF THE LEBANESE ARMY (LAF) WOULD BE SENT TO THE SOUTH AND SOMETHING WOULD BE DONE ABOUT THE "ISRAELI CONNECTION" TO PUT IT IN A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE. MAJORS HADDAD AND SHIDIAC WOULD BE REASSIGNED OUTSIDE SOUTH LEBANON. THESE PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED WITH PIERRE
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GEMAYEL WHO SAID HE FOUND THEM "REASONABLE" AND WOULD TRY TO PERSUADE CAMILLE CHAMOUN TO AGREE. TUENI IS ALSO PLANNING TO SEE CHAMOUN THIS AFTERNOON.

B. ALL REPEAT MILITIAS, INCLUDING CHRISTIANS AND "ANSAR" IN THE SOUTH AND MURABITUN AS WELL AS PHALANGE AND PNL, WOULD BE DRAFTED INTO THE ARMY. ALL MILITIAS WOULD BE LEFT WHERE

THEY ARE AND ALLOWED TO KEEP THEIR ARMS. NEW LAF OFFICERS WOULD BE ASSIGNED TO THEM, THEY WOULD BE PAID BY THE GOL AND THEY WOULD BE GIVEN SOME TRAINING AND CIVIC ACTION PROJECTS TO KEEP THEM BUSY. THIS IS A FAVORITE IDEA OF TUENI'S WHICH HE THINKS OTHERS MAY AGREE TO.

C. SYRIAN UNITS OF THE ADF WOULD BE REDEPLOYED, ALTHOUGH IT IS UNCLEAR WHERE THEY WOULD GO.

D. ALSO UNCLEAR IS HOW THE PROBLEM OF THE "GOOD FENCE" WOULD BE HANDLED. TUENI SAID THAT GOL WOULD DO NOTHING ABOUT IT RIGHT AWAY BUT EVENTUALLY IT WOULD HAVE TO BE CLOSED.

3. TUENI EMPHASIZED IN DESCRIBING ABOVE PROPOSAL THAT HE WAS SPEAKING PERSONALLY AND NOT REPEAT NOT OFFICIALLY.

4. AMBASSADOR EXPECTS TO BE CALLED TO THE PALACE WITHIN A FEW HOURS TO MEET WITH SARKIS AND/OR BOUTROS. HE EXPECTS THAT SARKIS WILL ASK ABOUT ISRAELI ATTITUDE TOWARDS LAF DEPLOYMENT TO THE SOUTH. AMBASSADOR REQUESTS THAT WE NOT REPEAT NOT APPROACH ISRAELIS NOW ON THIS QUESTION, SINCE GOL HAS NOT OFFICIALLY ASKED US, BUT THAT DEPARTMENT AND TEL AVIV CONSIDER HOW WE SHOULD RESPOND TO AN APPROACH LIKE THIS.

PARKER

NOTE: EXDIS CAPTION ADDED PER BEIRUT 3850.

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